



Southeast Fishery Bulletin

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Commercial Harvest of Gray Triggerfish in South Atlantic Waters Will Close on May 12, 2014

Commercial harvest of gray triggerfish in South Atlantic waters will **close at 12:01 a.m. (local time) May 12, 2014**. The 2014 commercial catch limit is 272,880 pounds whole weight. Landing reports indicate the catch limit will be met by May 12, 2014. Commercial harvest will reopen at 12:01 a.m. (local time) on January 1, 2015.

The operator of a vessel that has been issued a federal commercial permit for snapper-grouper and who is landing gray triggerfish for sale must have landed and bartered, traded, or sold such gray triggerfish prior to 12:01 a.m., local time, May 12, 2014. The prohibition on sale does not apply to sale or purchase of gray triggerfish that were harvested, landed ashore, and sold prior to 12:01 a.m. (local time) May 12, 2014, and held in cold storage by a dealer or processor.

During the closure:

- Harvest or possession of gray triggerfish in or from federal waters is limited to the recreational bag and possession limits.
- Sale and purchase of gray triggerfish in or from federal waters is prohibited.
- The closure applies in both state and federal waters for a person onboard a vessel with a federal snapper-grouper permit.

This closure is necessary to protect the snapper-grouper resource.